

Message

From: Smith, Emily J. [/O=EXCHANGELABS/OU=EXCHANGE ADMINISTRATIVE GROUP (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/CN=RECIPIENTS/CN=3170DC8557CB488285DE7652AD162CDD-SMITH, EMILY J.]
Sent: 6/4/2020 9:40:56 PM
To: Washington, John [/o=ExchangeLabs/ou=Exchange Administrative Group (FYDIBOHF23SPDLT)/cn=Recipients/cn=fdc3e8ce9f1d45c4894881ff420ca104-Washington, John]
Subject: FW: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

Hi John,

Below is the response that ORD Communications sent to the Amsterdam reporter: **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

-Emily

Emily J. Smith
Communications & Outreach
Center for Environmental Measurement & Modeling (CEMM)
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
109 T.W. Alexander Drive
MD-305-01
Research Triangle Park, NC, 27711
Phone: 919-541-5556
E-mail: smith.emily@epa.gov

"Protecting human health and the environment by delivering innovative measurement and modeling solutions to EPA and our partners"

From: Fitzpatrick, Kacey <Fitzpatrick.Kacey@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 3:33 PM
To: Smith, Emily J. <Smith.Emily@epa.gov>; Maguire, Megan <Maguire.Megan@epa.gov>; Autrey, Brad <Autrey.Brad@epa.gov>
Cc: Hubbard, Carolyn <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

I'm sending now. **Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)**

For this research project, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection approached the US Environmental Protection Agency to request assistance on assessing the distribution of the legacy compound, perfluorononanoic acid (PFNA). When we initiated the study, we were unaware of the presence of CIPFPECAs. It was only during the course of our nontargeted mass-spectral analyses that we discovered the presence of the CIPFPECAs. Upon discovery of the presence of the CIPFPECAs in our NJ samples, we reviewed the literature finding brief mention of them in a literature review (the Wang et al. reference in our paper), who in turn referenced the Solvay application to EFSA (EFSA reference in our paper). The EFSA reference does mention some testing that was done on the CIPFPECAs.

EPA's new chemicals program reviews alternatives for PFOA and related chemicals before they enter the marketplace to identify whether the range of toxicity, fate and bioaccumulation issues that have caused past concerns with perfluorinated substances may be present and to ensure that the new chemicals do not present an unreasonable risk to health or the environment. Alternatives that have been reviewed by EPA generally have improved toxicity and/or exposure profiles compared to PFOA and PFOS. In addition, EPA frequently requires testing for PFAS chemicals it reviews

under its new chemical program to ensure that substances submitted under a premanufacture notice do not pose an unreasonable risk to health or the environment.

EPA is committed to increasing transparency in the TSCA program, upholding the statutory obligation to make public health and safety information, while protecting valid CBI claims. The agency is working hard to ensure that the information companies claim as CBI meets the legal criteria laid out in TSCA. This is an important issue because we're legally obligated to keep some information confidential, and we must ensure that we're complying with those requirements.

We're continually making more information on chemicals publicly available as the law allows. For example, more information is available online on new chemicals today than ever before. See <https://blog.epa.gov/2020/03/20/increasing-innovation-and-access-to-information-on-new-chemicals/>.

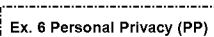
Kacey Fitzpatrick

Science Communication

Office of Research and Development

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office: 202-564-4086

Cell:  Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Smith, Emily J. <Smith.Emily@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 3:02 PM

To: Fitzpatrick, Kacey <Fitzpatrick.Kacey@epa.gov>; Maguire, Megan <Maguire.Megan@epa.gov>; Autrey, Brad <Autrey.Brad@epa.gov>

Cc: Hubbard, Carolyn <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>

Subject: RE: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

Great! Thanks for the update Kacey!

-Emily

Emily J. Smith
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"Protecting human health and the environment by delivering innovative measurement and modeling solutions to EPA and our partners"

From: Fitzpatrick, Kacey <Fitzpatrick.Kacey@epa.gov>

Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 3:01 PM

To: Smith, Emily J. <Smith.Emily@epa.gov>; Maguire, Megan <Maguire.Megan@epa.gov>; Autrey, Brad <Autrey.Brad@epa.gov>

Cc: Hubbard, Carolyn <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

Oh sorry, this one is actually with OPA.

Kacey Fitzpatrick

Science Communication
Office of Research and Development
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office: 202-564-4086
C6 Ex. 6 Personal Privacy (PP)

From: Smith, Emily J. <Smith.Emily@epa.gov>
Sent: Thursday, June 04, 2020 2:58 PM
To: Maguire, Megan <Maguire.Megan@epa.gov>; Fitzpatrick, Kacey <Fitzpatrick.Kacey@epa.gov>; Autrey, Brad <Autrey.Brad@epa.gov>
Cc: Hubbard, Carolyn <Hubbard.Carolyn@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

Just checking on the status of this. Wasn't sure if a response has been sent to the reporter.

Many thanks!

-Emily

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"Protecting human health and the environment by delivering innovative measurement and modeling solutions to EPA and our partners"

From: Smith, Emily J.
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2020 12:42 PM
To: Maguire, Megan <maguire.megan@epa.gov>; Fitzpatrick, Kacey <Fitzpatrick.Kacey@epa.gov>; Autrey, Brad <Autrey.Brad@epa.gov>
Cc: Hubbard, Carolyn <hubbard.carolyn@epa.gov>
Subject: FW: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

Hi Megan and Kacey,

Below is the response from John Washington to the question from the reporter from Amsterdam. I think we'll need to get OCSPP to weigh in on this. Maybe Kathy Ferenbacher? (sp?)

-Emily

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*"Protecting human health and the environment by delivering
innovative measurement and modeling solutions to EPA and our partners"*

From: Washington, John <Washington.John@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2020 12:00 PM
To: Smith, Emily J. <Smith.Emily@epa.gov>
Cc: Stevens, Caroline <Stevens.Caroline@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

Hi Emily,

Below is my draft response. You'll see, I agree with your suspicion that applications to EPA likely usually are CBI.

As a lab researcher, I reasonably claim naivete on EPA chemical-review policy. You and others might consider whether this simple approach might be the easiest. Just a thought, I know this is not my call.

John

Internal deliberative draft:
Hi Ms. Wismans,

Thank you for your interest.

Ex. 5 Deliberative Process (DP)

Thanks again for your interest.
Sincerely,
John Washington

From: Smith, Emily J. <Smith.Emily@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 9:27 AM
To: Washington, John <Washington.John@epa.gov>
Cc: Autrey, Brad <Autrey.Brad@epa.gov>; Stevens, Caroline <Stevens.Caroline@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

Thanks John! The reporter reached out to me in a separate email and I've responded to her, letting her know that I'm coordinating our response with the EPA press office and will get back with her as quickly as I can.

Could you please work on a brief written response to her question? Please send the response to me and I will work it through the appropriate reviews so it can be cleared and sent to the reporter. I'm happy to Skype with you about this this morning if you have any questions or want to touch base.

Best,

-Emily

Emily J. Smith
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"Protecting human health and the environment by delivering innovative measurement and modeling solutions to EPA and our partners"

From: Washington, John <Washington.John@epa.gov>
Sent: Wednesday, June 03, 2020 7:05 AM
To: Laura Wismans <l.wismans@nrc.nl>
Cc: Smith, Emily J. <Smith.Emily@epa.gov>; Autrey, Brad <Autrey.Brad@epa.gov>; Stevens, Caroline <Stevens.Caroline@epa.gov>
Subject: RE: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

Dear Ms. Wismans,

Thank you for your interest in our CIPFPECA paper that is scheduled to be published this Friday in the journal Science. I am guessing you received a press copy from the Science press office.

You ask a very good question that seems worthy of careful assessment. The policy at the US Environmental Protection Agency is for media inquiries to be handled through our Communications and Outreach Staff, Emily Smith and, if Emily is not available, Brad Autrey. Emily or Brad will be able to arrange an interview or have your questions addressed through official EPA channels.

Emily's contact information is:
Phone: 919-541-5556
E-mail: smith.emily@epa.gov

Brad Autrey's contact information is:

Phone: 513-569-7368

E-mail: autrey.brad@epa.gov

Thank you again for your interest and I wish you the best.

Sincerely,
John Washington

From: Laura Wismans <l.wismans@nrc.nl>
Sent: Wednesday, June 3, 2020 4:40 AM
To: Washington, John <Washington.John@epa.gov>
Subject: Question Dutch newspaper about CIPFPECA's-paper

Dear John Washington,

I read your paper about the CIPFPECA's, Solvays product, this week in Science. It sounded quite interesting to me (there is a huge PFAS-discussion in the Netherlands), especially because of the way you had to research them: trough soil collection. I am writing a little piece about it in the Dutch newspaper NRC Handelsblad.

I am not very familiar with the world of new chemical products so I'm sorry if this question is a bit foolish, but what I didn't really understand is why you have to find out what's in Solvays product in such a complicated way. Why is there so much mystery around a product that is on the market? I suppose new chemical products have to be tested and checked by agencies like the European Food Safety Authority and US equivalents, or have to be patented and I assumed the composition of the chemicals would be out in the open by then. How does that work? Wouldn't it be easier to wait for that? Or does that take too long?

I understand it is not that easy, you would have done that if it were. So could you maybe explain to me how this works?

I hope to hear from you.

All the best,

Laura Wismans
Science desk, technology and sustainability

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